

A rabbit who learns to be brave!



By Daniel Fiore
Illustrator: google images



Hoppy the rabbit lived in a small burrow with his family. He was always scared to go far from home.



One sunny day, Hoppy decided he wanted to explore the forest. But whenever he started to leave, he got too scared.



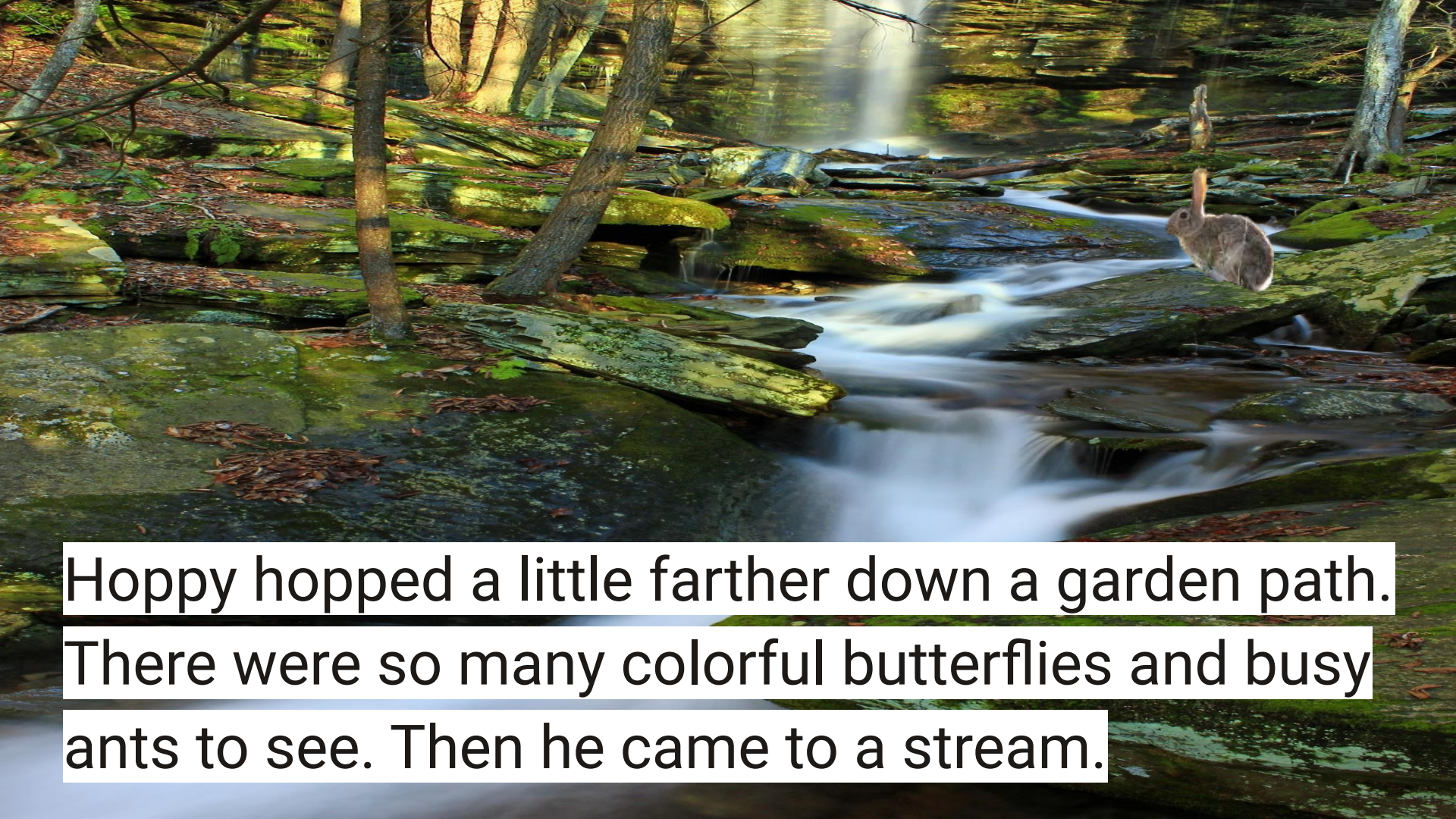
"Don't worry," said Hoppy's mother. "The forest can be scary at first. But you'll never see all the wonderful things out there if you don't go look."



So Hoppy took a deep breath and hopped out of the burrow. At first he stayed close to the entrance. The forest was big and strange.



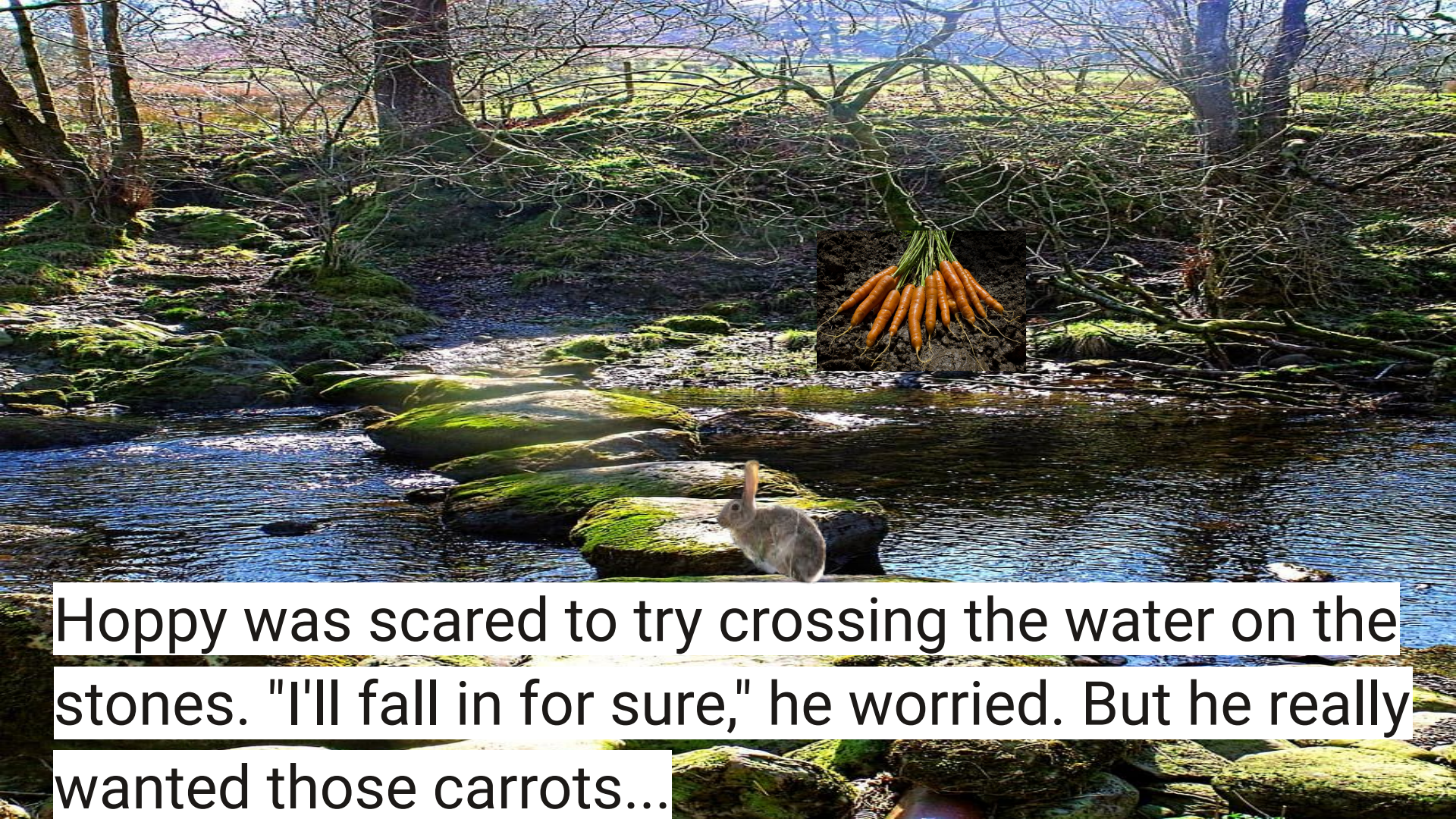
Hoppy heard chirping birds he had never heard before. And smelled beautiful flowers he had never smelled. "Maybe the forest isn't so scary," he thought.



Hoppy hopped a little farther down a garden path. There were so many colorful butterflies and busy ants to see. Then he came to a stream.



On the other side of the stream, Hoppy saw a meadow full of his favorite carrots! But to get there, he'd have to hop across stepping stones.



Hoppy was scared to try crossing the water on the stones. "I'll fall in for sure," he worried. But he really wanted those carrots...



"I can do this," Hoppy said, gathering his courage. He hopped to the first stone. Then the second and third. Halfway there!



But on the next stone, Hoppy's foot slipped! "Oh no!" he gasped, preparing to fall into the stream.



OMG HE FELL IN THE WATER AND IS DRONWING



JUST KIDDING



Just in time, Hoppy flung out his arms and caught his balance. His heart raced, but he was still dry!



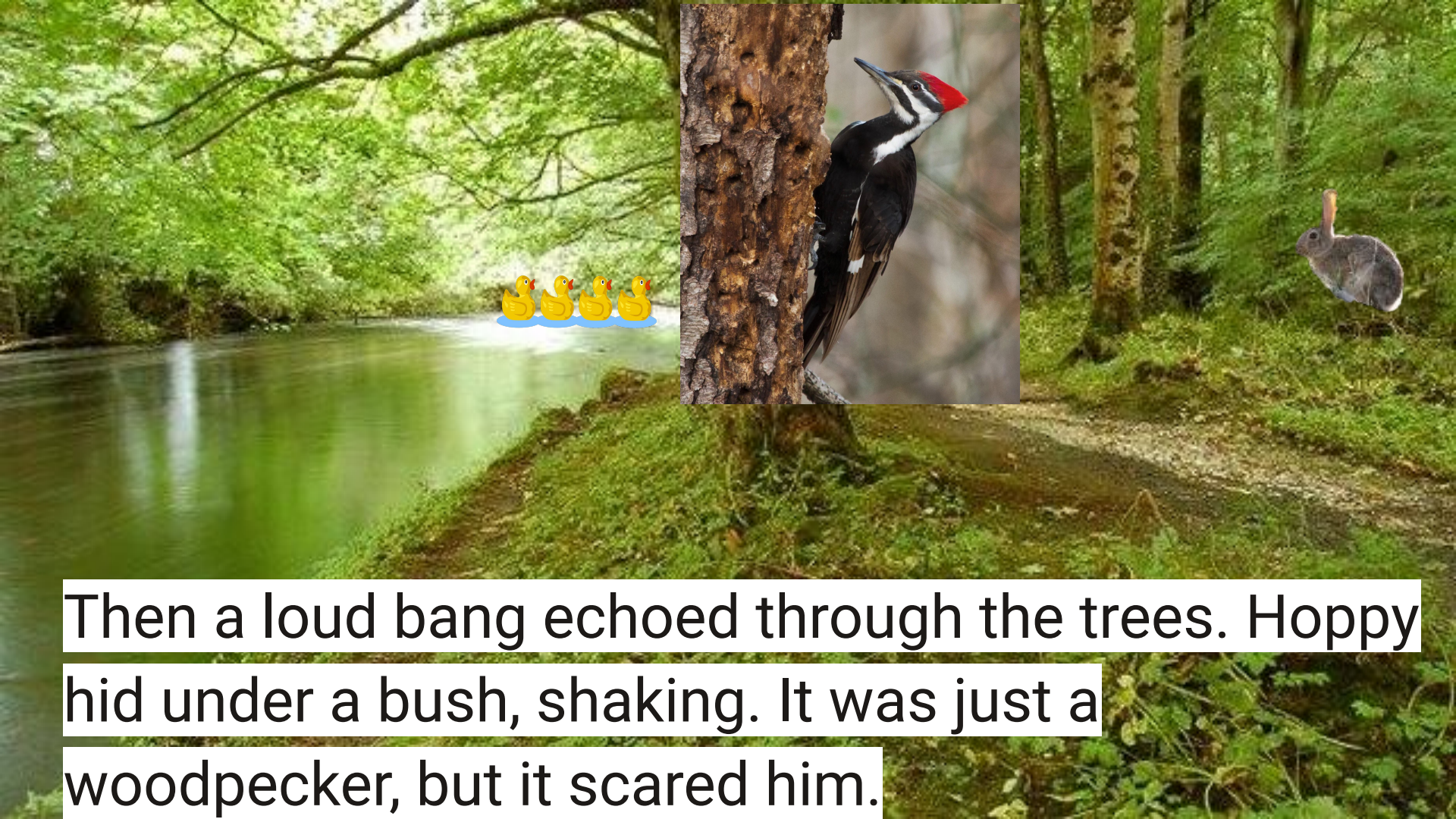
After a few more hops, he made it safely to the other side. Hoppy gobbled up the delicious carrots, proud he had crossed the stream.



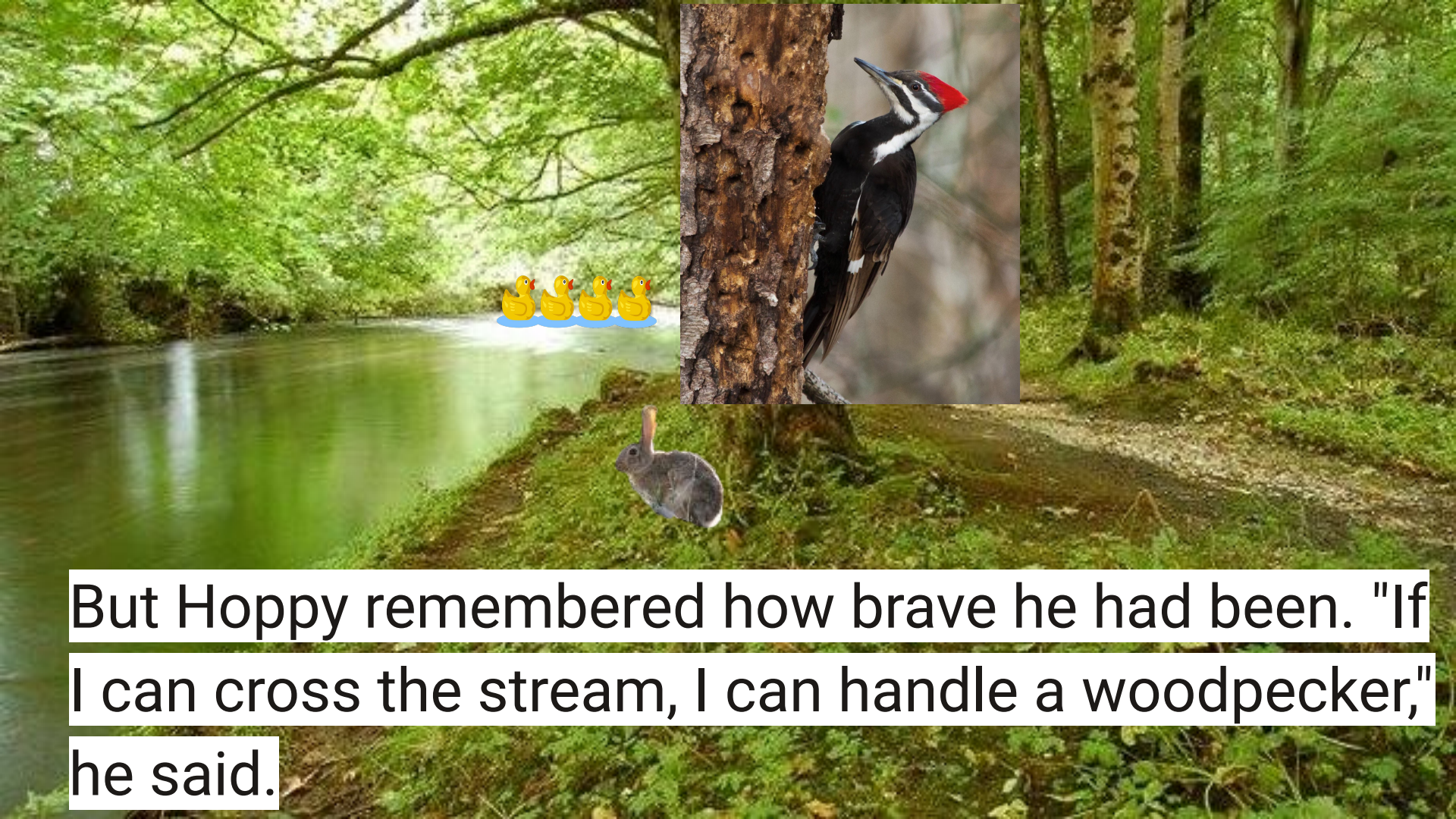
On his way home, Hoppy saw a line of ducklings following their mother. He had never seen baby ducks up close before!



When the ducklings saw Hoppy, they rushed over, quacking hello. Hoppy giggled as they tickled his fur with their beaks.



Then a loud bang echoed through the trees. Hoppy hid under a bush, shaking. It was just a woodpecker, but it scared him.



But Hoppy remembered how brave he had been. "If I can cross the stream, I can handle a woodpecker," he said.



So Hoppy took a deep breath and continued along the path. Noises still made him jump, but he kept going.



Hoppy arrived back home proud of his adventures.
He couldn't wait to explore again tomorrow.



At dinner, Hoppy told his family all about his day. "I was scared at first. But I'm glad I was brave enough to see the forest," he said.



THE END